

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 8-62 are pending. By way of the previous Amendment filed June 26, 2009, claims 6, 7 and 63 were cancelled, claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 were amended, and no new claims were added. By way of this Supplemental Amendment, no claims are amended, no claims are cancelled, and no claims are added.

In further support of the previous Amendment filed June 26, 2009, Applicants respectfully submit the attached Declaration of Sigrid Eri. As stated in the attached Declaration of Sigrid Eri, Table 5 and Examples 60-65 in Espinoza et al. refer to the properties of the starting material, which is identified as Puralox SCCa 5/150. Puralox SCCa 5/150 is not equivalent to the alumina supports used in the preparation of the catalysts in the present application. When catalysts are prepared using Puralox SCCa 5/150 as the starting material for the alumina support by incipient wetness using the same method as described in the instant application, the test results clearly indicate that the values of the specific area and pore volume decrease as cobalt is deposited in the pores of the starting SCCa 5/150 alumina support material. As a result, the physical property data of the specific area and pore volume in Table 5 of Espinoza et al. is not representative of the physical properties of the resulting Fischer-Tropsch catalyst. Applicants respectfully submit that the figures relating to the initial support material in Espinoza et al. are not applicable to the impregnated and calcined catalyst of the claimed invention. As such, Espinoza et al. fails to teach the limitations of the catalyst as claimed in independent claim 1. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. L. Stender', enclosed within a large, loopy oval flourish.

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